Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 SS-15

NSC-05 /120 W

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O R 141505Z JAN 76 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7543 INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD ETRD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PREFERENCES: DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

REF: GENEVA 134

1. PLENARY SESSION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE HAS COMPLETED UNEVENTFUL DISCUSSION SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA. CONTACT GROUP FORMED TO CONSIDER THREE RESOLUTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN TABLED: FIRST, ON U.S. SCHEME, REFTEL AND PREVIOUS; SECOND ON EXTENSION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT (SEPTEL) AND THIRD ON IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY MEASURES FOR MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED, LAND-LOCKED AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES INTRODUCED AT SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE AND APPENDED TO THE REPORT (TD/B/C.5/L20).

2. GROUP B CONTINUING OPPOSE GENERALIZED VERSION OF RESOLUTION CRITICIZING U.S. SCHEME AND ASKING FOR ITS WITHDRAWAL. US DEL MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF GOING ALONG WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESOLUTION CHANGED ALONG LINES

REFTEL BUT SEVERAL GROUP B DELS CONTINUED OPPOSE
RESOLUTION IN PRINCIPLE BASED ON UNBALANCED NATURE OF
PRESENT VERSION AND ON EXISTANCE OF ALREADY AGREED TEXT
ON GENERAL IMPROVEDMENT OF SCHEMES CONTAINED IN RESOLUTION 2 (VI) OF THE COMMITTEE'S LAST SESSION.
WE SUPPORTING THIS APPROACH AS OUR FIRST PREFERENCE. THIS
GROUP B POSITION TAKEN IN CONTACT GROUP MEETING MORNING
JAN 14. WE CONSIDER WITHDRAWAL BY GROUP 77 UNLIKELY
AND IN THAT EVENT MAY FALL BACK TO RESOLUTION CHANGED
ALONG LINES MENTIONED IN REFTEL B.

3. IN VIEW NEGATIVE GROUP B POSITION ON THIS RESOLUTION, MEMBERS ENDEAVORED FIND REVISED LANGUAGE FOR DRAFT TD/B/C.5/L/20. HOWEVER, WIDE DIVERGENCE VIEWS EMERGED REGARDING INCLUSION OF M.S.A.S. CANADA, AUSTRALIA, AND AUSTRIA ADAMANT ABOUT NOT INCLUDING MSAS AND EEC EQUALLY ADAMANT THAT IF MSAS INCLUDED THERE WAS NO POINT IN FURTHER CONSIDERATION SINCE PURPOSE OF THE DRAFT HAD BEEN GUTTED. GROUP 77 APPARENTLY GIVING LOW PRIORITY THIS RESOLUTION. FURTHER CONSIDERATION THEREFORE DEFERRED BY GROUP B PENDING DEVELOPMENTS IN CONTACT GROUP.

4. GROUP 77 HAS APPARENTLY SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME IN ATTEMPTING TO DRAFT A RESOLUTION ON G.S.P. AND MTN BUT THUS FAR UNABLE AGREE ON TEXT. ABRAMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (TARIFFS)

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 14 JAN 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA00221

Document Number: 1976GENEVA00221 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760013-1036

From: GENEVA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760159/aaaacahl.tel Line Count: 87

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 GENEVA 134 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20 APR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <20 APR 2004 by morefirh>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: UNCTAD SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PREFERENCES: DRAFT RESOLUTIONS TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006